

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the Title, insert a new heading and new paragraph as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is an national phase application based on PCT/JP2003/010004, filed August 6, 2003, which claims the priority of Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-229385, filed August 7, 2002, the content of both of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please amend page 91, line 25, and page 92, lines 1-14 as follows:

As mentioned above, in step (2) of the method of the present invention, a mixture containing a degraded compound derived from the reactive organometal compound and the carbonic ester is separated from the reaction mixture as the first portion. With respect to the removal of the degraded compound, all of the degraded compound may be removed or a part of the degraded compound may be removed. The amount of the degraded compound removed may vary depending on the size of the reactor and/or the number of turnovers (i.e., the number of cycles of regeneration and reuse) of the reactive organometal compound. It is preferred that 10 % ~~by weight~~ or more of the degraded compound is removed. It is more preferred that 50 % ~~by weight~~ or more of the degraded compound is removed.